

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Attn: FOIA/PA Appeals Office
P.O. Box 648010
Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

APP2019500397

May 30, 2019

Taylor-Scott Amarel
Muckrock News DEPT MR 71275
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02144

Dear Taylor-Scott Amarel:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act/Privacy Act (FOIA/PA) request received in this office on May 23, 2019 regarding Emails sent to DHSBeijing.CIS@uscis.dhs.gov containing the following non-case-sensitive keystring in the content or headers of the emails, "anthonyjim85@gmail.com" from January 1, 2014 to January 1, 2018.

After carefully considering your request, I must deny it in its entirety pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6) (Exemption 6). In order to obtain these records your request must demonstrate one or more of the following criteria:

- Written authorization from the individual(s) permitting disclosure of the records to you, which consists of a written statement from the records' subject(s) stating his/her full name, current address, and date and place of birth. Additionally, the written statement must be signed by the records' subject(s) and the signature must either be notarized or signed under penalty of perjury, or
- Proof of parentage with the requester's verification of identity if the subject of record is a minor at the time of the request, or
- Proof of court-appointed guardianship with the requester's verification of identity, or
- Proof that the subject [or subjects] of your request [is] [are] deceased, or
- A clear demonstration that the public interest in disclosure outweighs the personal privacy interest(s) of the individual(s) and that significant public benefit would result from the disclosure of the requested records.

Your request did not satisfy any of the above criteria. Where a FOIA requester seeks information about individuals in personnel, medical, and similar files FOIA Exemption 6 protects from disclosure information that, if released, would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. To determine whether the disclosure of personal information would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, Exemption 6 requires the government to balance the privacy interests of individuals that would be compromised by disclosure of government records about them against the public interest in release of the records.

If you are dissatisfied with our action on your appeal, you may seek judicial review in accordance with 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(B).

The Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), the Federal FOIA Ombudsman's office, offers mediation services to help resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal Agencies. The OGIS does not have the authority to handle requests made under the Privacy Act of 1974. The contact information for OGIS is:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road – OGIS
College Park, MD 20740-6001
Telephone: 202-741-5770
877-684-6448

Email: OGIS@NARA.GOV

Website: OGIS.ARCHIVES.GOV

The OGIS does not have the authority to handle requests made under the Privacy Act of 1974.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan D. Hughes", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Alan D. Hughes, Associate Counsel
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services